UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/862,448	05/23/2001	Satoshi Iwata	1075.1167	8881

			EXAMINER
21171	7590	12/12/2006	CAMPBELL, JOSHUA D

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2178	

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/862,448	IWATA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Joshua D. Campbell	2178	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _06 October 2006_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1,4-13 and 16-20_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1,4-13 and 16-20_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to communications: RCE filed on 10/06/2006.

2.   Claims 1, 4-13, and 16-20 are pending in this case. Claims 1 and 13 are
independent claims. Claims 1, 4, 7-10, 13, 16, 19, and 20 have been amended.

3.   The rejection of claims 1, 10, and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as
being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter
which applicant regards as the invention is withdrawn as necessitated by the
amendment.

Claim Objections

4.   Claims 4 and 16 remain objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper
dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim.
Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s)
in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. The lines "...a
cursory reading display mode in which title and emphasized parts, of the document
contents in each page, are extracted to display..." (lines 20-21 of claim 1 and lines 16-
17 of claim 13) effectively recites a more detailed version of the limitations presented in
claims 4 and 16. Thus, the claims provide no additional limitations and do not further
limit the claims. Proper correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5.   The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

6.   Claims 1, 4-13, and 16-20 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Endo et al. (hereinafter Endo, US Patent Number 5,801,713, issued on September 1, 1998) as applied to claims 1 and 13 above, and further in view of Palmer et al. (hereinafter Palmer, US Patent Number 6,002,798, issued on December 14, 1999).

Regarding independent claim 1, Endo discloses a method in which a document made up of pages is displayed to user to be read (column 4, lines 6-47 of Endo). Endo discloses that a user may control the display state of the displaying section (column 4, lines 6-47 of Endo). Endo also discloses a method in which each page may displayed as a whole or an automatic paging sequence that may be set to different speeds will automatically scroll the pages in succession based a display speed (column 2, line 42-column 3, line 50 of Endo). Endo discloses the ability for the user to select from the basic read mode and a plurality of automatic paging modes, this control ultimately controlling what is displayed and how it is controlled (column 3, line 29-column 4, line 63 of Endo). Endo discloses a method in which the document may be scrolled in at least two modes; A1 (cursory mode) which would allow for a user to read the page and view the outlines and A2 (general view mode) which is faster and would simply allow the user to get a good look at the page as a whole (Figures 3 and 4 and column 5, lines 15-25 of Endo).

Endo does not disclose a method in which only the titles and emphasized parts, which could be detected according to a predetermined condition such as font type and size, or only a layout-display are displayed from each page of the document during the viewing of the document. However, Palmer discloses a method in which a document display program will only extract and display the title of documents and a document element according to font type or size or the layout (structure) of documents based on the users preferences (Figure 6 and column 6, line 37-column 8, line 63 of Palmer). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the methods of Endo with the methods of Palmer because it would have allowed for rapid browsing of documents.

Regarding dependent claims 4-7, Endo does not disclose a method in which only the title, a layout-display, document element according to a predetermined condition such as font type and size, and that only an image would be extracted from each page of the document for display. However, Palmer discloses a method in which a document display program will only extract and display the title of documents, the layout of documents, a document element according to font type or size, or an image contained in documents based on the users preferences (Figure 6 and column 6, line 37-column 8, line 63 of Palmer). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the methods of Endo with the methods of Palmer because it would have allowed for rapid browsing of documents.

Regarding dependent claim 8, Endo does not disclose a method in which a page is displayed schematically by changing the display resolution. However, Palmer

discloses a method in which changing the display resolution allows for more rapid

viewing of a document with loss of quality, allowing a user to view the document as a

schematic rather than a highest quality (column 1, line 30-column 2, line 54 of Palmer).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to have combined the methods of Endo with the methods of Palmer because

it would have allowed for rapid browsing of documents.

Regarding dependent claims 9 and 10, Endo discloses a method in which the

speed at which the pages are scrolled may be set in each mode (column 3, line 29-

column 4, line 63 of Endo). Endo does not disclose that each display method is

established in each mode. However, Palmer discloses a method in which each display

method may be individually established for the document viewing process (column 6,

line 37-column 8, line 63 of Palmer). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the methods of Endo

with the methods of Palmer because it would have allowed for rapid browsing of

documents.

Regarding dependent claims 11 and 12, Endo discloses a method in which in

which different modes may be selected and the paging display mode is based on the

selections (column 3, line 29-column 4, line 63 of Endo). Endo does not disclose that

the selection process consists of switches. However, it would have been obvious to one

of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the method of

Endo with a method of using switches because it was well known in the art at the time

of the invention that a selection process as disclosed by Endo consists of a set of logic

that is determined based on selections which could be thought of as virtual switches.

Regarding independent claim 13, the claim incorporates substantially similar

subject matter as claim 1. Thus, the claim is rejected along the same rationale as claim

1.

Regarding dependent claims 16-20, the claims incorporate substantially similar

subject matter as claims 4-8. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same rationale as

claims 4-8.

Response to Arguments

7.   Applicant's arguments filed 10/6/2006 have been fully considered but they are

not persuasive.

Regarding applicant's arguments on page 6 in reference to the objections of

claims 4 and 16, the examiner maintains that the objection is proper and thus it will be

maintained. Claims 4 and 16 state only the limitation, "…at least one of said plurality of

automatic paging display modes, said display mode makes said displaying section

display partially each page by extracting a document element corresponding to a

predetermined condition from document elements constituting each page and displaying

said extracted document element on said displaying section," which directly

corresponds to the limitation recited in claims 1 and 13 which states, "…a cursory

reading display mode in which title and emphasized parts, of the document contents in

each page, are extracted to display," (lines 20-21 of claim 1 and lines 16-17 of claim

13). In order to clarify this correspondence the examiner has provided a direct mapping

of each element of the claimed limitations between claims 1 and 13 and claim 4 and 16.

Claims 4 and 16 state, "...at least one of said plurality of automatic paging display

modes," which corresponds to "...a cursory reading display mode," in claims 1 and 13,

because a cursory reading display mode is one of the display modes. Claims 4 and 16

go on to state, "...said display mode makes said displaying section display partially

each page by extracting a document element corresponding to a predetermined

condition from document elements constituting each page," which corresponds to "...in

which title and emphasized parts, of the document contents in each page, are

extracted," in claims 1 and 13, because the act of extracting the title and emphasized

parts of the document is in fact extracting elements according to a predetermined

condition, the predetermined condition being extract only titles and emphasized parts.

Finally claims 4 and 16 state, "...displaying said extracted document element on said

displaying section," which corresponds to "...are extracted to display," of claims 1 and

13, because the extracted title and emphasized parts are indeed displayed in the

display section of claims 1 and 13. Thus, as previously stated, claims 4 and 16 are

improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous

claims 1 and 13.

Regarding applicant's arguments on pages 6-8 in reference to claim 1,

specifically the claimed features "...providing a reading display mode of displaying the

whole contents of each page of said document contents on said displaying section," and

"...outline view display mode in which only document structure is displayed as a layout

so that the whole of each page is viewable to the user," the examiner maintains that the

rejection is proper, thus it will be maintained. The applicant states, "Applicants assumes

that the Examiner considered that Endo disclosed the outline view display mode and the

reading display mode," this assumption is false, the examiner clearly states that Endo

teaches the reading display mode and that it does not teach the outline display mode,

however Palmer provides teaching that would make that feature obvious. The examiner

states in the rejection, "Endo also discloses a method in which each page may

displayed as a whole or an automatic paging sequence that may be set to different

speeds will automatically scroll the pages in succession based a display speed (column

2, line 42-column 3, line 50 of Endo)," thus providing proof that Endo teaches the

reading display mode, which is in fact nothing more than displaying the document and

all of its contents. The examiner then goes on to state in the previously provided

rejection, "Endo does not disclose a method in which only the titles and emphasized

parts, which could be detected according to a predetermined condition such as font type

and size, or **only a layout-display are displayed from each page of the document**

during the viewing of the document," (emphasis added) in which the emphasized

portion of this statement clearly corresponds to the applicant's own definition of the

outline view mode as provided in the last three lines in claim 1. The examiner then

goes on to state in the previously provided rejection, "However, Palmer discloses a

method in which a document display program will only extract and display the title of

documents and a document element according to font type or size **or the layout**

(structure) of documents based on the users preferences (Figure 6 and column 6,

line 37-column 8, line 63 of Palmer). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the methods of Endo with the methods of Palmer because it would have allowed for rapid browsing of documents," (emphasis added) in which the emphasized parts provide proof that Palmer does in fact teach the use of an outline view mode, which has not been argued by the applicant. Thus, the rejection remains proper.
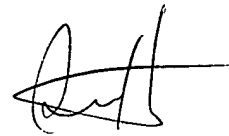
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua D. Campbell whose telephone number is (571) 272-4133. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30 AM - 4:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong can be reached on (571) 272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

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Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JDC
November 28, 2006

STEPHEN HONG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER